

Conversion of National Highway Nos. 23 and 33 into Four-lane

973. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when would NH-23 be fully converted into at least 7.5m carriageways;

(b) when would NH-33 be converted to four lane;

<c) whether Government have plans to allocate more funds for National Highways for Jharkhand for the years 2006-07 and 2007-08, please give details; and

(d) when would the bye pass be built for Ranchi-Hazaribagh-Ramgarh-Gumla?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Width of two-lane carriageway is 7 m. Nearly 71 km. of National Highways in Jharkhand and 23 Km of National Highways in Orissa has less than two-lane carriageway; out of which widening to two lane has been sanctioned in 41 km. in Jharkhand and 2 km. in Orissa. Widening in remaining length will depend upon *inter-se* priority of works and availability of funds.

(b) Hazaribagh-Ranchi section of National Highway No. 33 has been approved for implementation under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-III-A. Barhi-Ranchi and Ranchi-Jamshedpur sections of National Highways No. 33 are approved under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-III-B for only Detailed Project Report (DPR) preparation. Bids for four-laning of Hazaribagh-Ranchi section is to be invited by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). It is premature to indicate time-frame for four-laning of National Highway No. 33.

(c) Funds allocated under NH(O) for Jharkhand in 2006-07 is Rs. 40 crore. Its revision at final stages in the current year depends upon utilization of funds by the State. Funds allocation for 2007-08 has not yet been" decided.

(d) Ranchi Bypass is a part of Ranchi-Jamshedpur section and Hazaribagh Bypass is a part of Barhi-Hazaribagh section of NH-33.

Both stretches are under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-III-B. Construction of other bypasses is not proposed at present.

National Maritime Development Programme

974. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRASEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed to set up a National Maritime Development Programme to facilitate more focused and accelerated investment in specific infrastructure tonnage acquisition and institutionalise capacity building for various ongoing projects;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof; and

(c) the present projects operating in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Department of Shipping has already formulated the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP). Under the Programme a total of 387 projects comprising 276 projects in major ports and 111 projects in the Shipping and Inland Water Transport Sector have been identified to be taken up for implementation over a defined period. Total investment involved under the Programme is Rs. 1,00,339 crores. Out of this, Rs. 55,804 crores is for the major ports and the balance Rs. 44,535 crores is for the Shipping and Inland Water Transport Sectors. The projects in the major ports relate to deepening of port channels, development of berths, modernization and upgradation of cargo handling equipment, enhancement of rail/road connectivity between the ports and the hinterland and other associated projects. The projects in the Shipping and IWT sectors include tonnage acquisition, maritime training, coastal shipping, aids to navigation, ship-building and building up of inland water transport infrastructure. The entire Programme will be implemented, in phases, through Public Private Partnership.

(c) A total of 12 projects in the major ports have been completed. Works are in progress in respect of 76 projects in the major ports and in the shipping and inland water transport sectors.